

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 205395
ORIGIN AF-10

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TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 205395

FOR CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, ET, KE, SO, SU, TZ, FAO

SUBJECT: LOCUST THREAT

REFS: MOGADISCIO 1841; STATE 203080 AND PREVIOUS

1. WE HAD THOUGHT FROM THE SEVERAL EARLIER TELEGRAMS
ON THE LOCUST THREAT THAT WHAT USG IS ATTEMPTING TO
ACCOMPLISH WOULD BE QUITE CLEAR. BRIEFLY, USG SEEKS TO
ENCOURAGE COOPERATION AMONG STATES IN HORN TO STOP SPREAD
OF LOCUSTS FROM NORTHERN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA TO AREAS
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SOUTH AND WEST AND THEREBY FORESTALL EXTENSIVE CROP
DAMAGE AND RESULTING FOOD SHORTAGES. THOUGH NOT PARTICULARLY
SANGUINE, WE CONSIDER EVEN MODICUM OF ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA
COOPERATION ON LOCUST THREAT MIGHT HAVE BENEFICIAL
EFFECT ON OTHER PROBLEMS THESE TWO COUNTRIES SHARE.

2. AS EARLIER TELS THIS SUBJECT OUTLINED, INFORMATION

AVAILABLE TO US INDICATES FAO-DLCO/EA ORGANIZATION TO MEET LOCUST THREAT NEEDS IMPROVEMENT. ONE OF PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF THIS DISORGANIZATION IS LACK OF COOPERATION BETWEEN ETHIOPIANS AND SOMALIS WITHIN DLCO/EA, AS WELL AS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. LOCUST THREAT IS PARTICULARLY SERIOUS AT THIS TIME BECAUSE DLCO/EA SPRAY TEAMS HAVE NOT RPT NOT BEEN ABLE TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY IN NORTHERN

SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA. FURTHER, BECAUSE OF SOMALI GUERRILLA ACTIVITY IN THE OGADEN, TEAMS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO PREPARE FOR EXPECTED MOVEMENT SOUTH OF LOCUST SWARMS IN SEPTEMBER.

3. US AND OTHER DONORS ARE PREPARED TO HELP, BUT IN FIRST INSTANCE WE MUST SEEK ON URGENT BASIS BETTER COOPERATION NOW BETWEEN SOMALIS AND ETHIOPIANS. WE RECOGNIZE SUDANESE, FOR EXAMPLE, MAY BE MORE EFFECTIVE WITH SOMALIS, OR TANZANIANS WITH ETHIOPIANS, IN URGING SUCH COOPERATION THAN DIRECT REPRESENTATIONS FROM US. AS YOU ARE AWARE, WE HAVE AUTHORIZED SUCH REPRESENTATIONS AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN THESE NEIGHBORING CAPITALS. WE HAVE UNDER CONSIDERATION NOW HOW WE CAN MAKE ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATIONS IN AN EFFORT TO COMMUNICATE THE URGENCY WE FEEL ON THIS MATTER, WHICH IS ON THE WHOLE SHARED BY GOVERNMENTS IN STATES NEIGHBORING SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA. WE BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE, HOWEVER, TO ALSO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN THESE NEIGHBORING CAPITALS. WE HAVE UNDER CONSIDERATION NOW HOW WE CAN MAKE ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATIONS IN AN EFFORT TO COMMUNICATE THE URGENCY WE FEEL ON THIS MATTER, WHICH IS ON THE WHOLE SHARED BY GOVERNMENTS IN STATES NEIGHBORING SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA. WE BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE, HOWEVER, TO ALSO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN THESE NEIGHBORING CAPITALS.

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TATIONS AT SENIOR LEVEL IN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA, WHICH ARE SOURCES OF CURRENT LOCUST THREAT. WE SEE NO RPT NO REASON TO DELAY. WE WILL OF COURSE BE INTERESTED IN ANY NEW INFORMATION DEVELOPED AS RESULT OF REPRESENTATIONS ON THIS MATTER.

4. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS OUTLINED PARA 8, STATE 203080 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND REPORT RESULTS.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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